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Docket No.: 204936US0X

**TECH CENTER 1600/2900** 

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

:

Teruaki TAJI, et al.

: EXAMINER: COLLINS

SERIAL NO.: 09/810,506

:

FILED: MARCH 19, 2001

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1638

FOR: A METHOD FOR INCREASING STRESS-RESISTANCE TO A PLANT

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated April 9, 2002, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group III, Claim 6. In addition, please amend the application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy to read as follows:

- 1. (Amended) The method for increasing stress resistance to a plant according to claim 6, which comprises introducing a glactinol synthetase gene into the plant body.
- 7. (Amended) The method for increasing stress resistance to a plant according to claim 6, which comprises improving galactinol synthetic activity in the plant body.
- 8. (Amended) The method for increasing stress resistance to a plant according to claim 6, which comprises excessively expressing the following protein (e) or (f) in the plant body:

B